The James Hornsby School

Together we excel

James Hornsby School is committed to serving its community and educating the young people of Basildon to become good members of the Commonwealth. The school embraces the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing society of the United Kingdom and aims to ensure its students are prepared to make their contribution to it.

Position Statement

We recognise that Britain is a united nation where freedom of speech is an entitlement for all and we strive to ensure that all members of the school are treated with respect when sharing their views and opinions. It is our aim that the core 'British Values' set out by government to be delivered in schools (2011 Prevent Strategy) are not only embedded within our curriculum but are actively demonstrated in our everyday practice.

The five British Values are:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

Democracy

From the election of the Student Leadership team to the choice of the school's charities we rely on democratic process. This is not restricted to 'giving people a vote' but also encourages people to present a case and involve themselves in educated debate about the issues at hand. Reporting back on issues discussed

and representing others is a core part of this process. The principle of democracy is also explored in the History and personal development curriculum as well as in form time and assemblies.

The rule of law

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school, or the country are consistently reinforced at James Hornsby. The rules and expectations of the school are made clear to all stakeholders as is people's duty to uphold them and identify those people who do not. We believe in a culture of reparative justice where 'rule breakers' are given every opportunity to repair relationships or correct any wrongs. Students are given opportunity to take part in debates and Law is a topic covered in several RSE lessons, Character Education lessons, assemblies and tutor times across the year. We work closely with outside agencies including Essex police, the fire service and other organisations to promote understanding of rules and their consequences in wider society. The rules of law is also covered in the curriculum through in English and History.

Individual liberty

At James Hornsby we provide students with a safe and secure environment where they can express their individual views and opinions. Independent thinking and creating opportunities are part of what we believe in to create 'good members of the Commonwealth'. We encourage students to learn about both their rights and personal freedoms, but also the contrasts between those we take for granted and those in other parts of the world. We take pride in demonstrating the liberty we have as a nation and how we should all be respectful of others' points of view whilst being vigilant of those views which could lead to discrimination, radicalisation or extremism. All subjects within the curriculum try at appropriate times to provide students opportunities to individually express themselves. We also ensure that the right to individual thought and free speech is taken responsibly and safely, for example through ensuring students are fully aware of the internet and e-safety. James Hornsby has a robust anti-bullying culture and has in place comprehensive student discipline policies.

Mutual Respect

Expressing individual views is an important part of our learning culture but it must always be conducted in conjunction with respecting the views and rights of others. The school follows equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar. James Hornsby is dedicated to preparing students for their lives beyond school and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all its students and a mutual respect of the views of others.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

All students at James Hornsby follow a curriculum where a broad range of faiths, beliefs and cultures are discussed, investigated, and learnt about. All students are explicitly taught about the beliefs and practices of different religions through their

Personal Development lessons. We ensure that pupils are exposed to different cultures, faiths, and beliefs through our Character Education programme. During form time, one day a week is dedicated to learning about and celebrating awareness days and significant occasions in all faiths and cultures. We regularly hold extra-curricular activities which mark cultural celebrations such as Chinese New Year, Black History Month and European Languages Week.

British values in the wider sense:

Charity work

Our students recognise that a core British value is recognising and supporting those less fortunate than themselves. Our students choose charities to represent which are both local national and international and all students are given opportunity to take part in charity work.